GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1630
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2016
Unclaimed Deposits
Khuba Shri Bhagwanth;Rathwa Shri Ramsinh Patalyabhai

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up Committee to assess the amount of unclaimed deposits in small savings schemes and Public Provident Fund;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for accumulation of these unclaimed deposits;
(c) whether the Government intends to utilize these deposits for the benefits of senior citizens and if so, the details thereof;
(d) whether the Government has initiated a new deposit scheme for the senior citizens, if so, the details thereof; and
(e) whether the Government proposes to keep interest earned from this scheme free from income tax and if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

Answer

(a) & (b): Sir, the Government had setup a committee under the chairmanship of Dy. Governor, RBI to assess the amount of unclaimed deposits in small savings schemes and Public Provident Fund. The committee was also expected to recommend how such amounts can be used to protect and to further the financial interests of the senior citizens. The amount under Small Savings Schemes was accumulated as unclaimed because of no claim by depositor / nominees / legal heirs.
(c) Yes. The Government has notified the Senior Citizens Welfare Fund Act and Rules to utilize the unclaimed deposits for the benefit of senior citizens.
(d) Not yet.
(e) Does not arise.